**Possible IOP Topics**

**Comparison of writers:**

* motivation for travelling
* attitude to the people and places visited
* biographies: how are these reflected in books studied?
* who did you trust most?

**Comparison of books:**

* structure
* tone (matter of fact, ironic, respectful, humorous)
* mood (celebratory, happy, pleased, regretful, angry, embarrassed, irritated)
* style (short sentences, long complex sentences, anecdotal, dialogue)
* purpose (informative, entertaining, provocative)
* use of other travel literature
* use of interviews
* use of historical research
* which did you like best?

**Themes:**

a) Theroux:

* crime and corruption
* buildings and artifacts
* development aid
* post-independence changes
* political
* economic
* involvement of foreigners
* subsistence agriculture
* tourism
* traditional cultures

b) Dalrymple:

* architecture as a key to the past
* seasons and changes in behaviour/life-style
* festivals
* relations between different religious communities
* social rituals (weddings, funerals)
* Muslim rule
* changes through history ... rise and decline
* legacy
* British rule
* changes in nature of British involvement
* legacy

c) Chatwin:

* the bizarre, mysterious and unexplained
* attitude to people of different cultures and regions
* travel / movement

You could **compare** the presentation of particular themes in one book with:

* their presentation in different books
* their presentation in relation to other regions within the same book
* your experiences in your own country